

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace Sheet 4 of the drawing with the enclosed replacement sheet.

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REMARKS

This application was originally filed on 31 December 2003 with sixteen claims, four of which were written in independent form. No claims have been allowed.

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they did not include reference under 140 mentioned in the description. Figure 14 has been amended to include reference number 140.

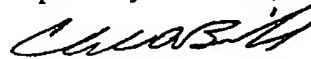
Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. The applicant respectfully disagrees.

The Examiner stated, "the phrase 'via seat' renders the claims indefinite. Page 14, line 21 of the specification illustrates a via seat 140 through figure 14. However, reference 140 is not shown in figure 14. Therefore, it is unclear of the structure being claimed."

Numerous passages of the specification and other drawings provide ample teaching of the via seat. For example, the paragraphs beginning on: line 2 of page 3, line 10 of page 3, line 1 of page 5, line 7 of page 5, line 26 of page 10, line 21 of page 12, line 1 of page 13, line 7 of page 13, line 21 of page 13, line 3 of page 14, line 11 of page 14, line 17 of page 14, line 21 of page 14, and the Abstract of the Disclosure all provide teachings and descriptions of various embodiments of the via seat.

In view of the amendments and the remarks presented herewith, it is believed that the claims currently in the application accord with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are allowable over the prior art of record. Therefore, it is urged that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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